Impact of Imports of Software Packages

2578. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any study to find out the impact of indiscriminate imports of software packages on the domestic industry under the new software policy, particularly when many internationally available general purpose software packages have been indigenously developed and substantial investments have been made to develop specialised applications packages;

(b) if so, what has been the outcome thereof; and

(c) what steps are contemplated by Government to safeguard the interests of the domesic software industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) The new software policy will not result in indiscriminate import of software packages as imports are allowed only by three categories of importers:

(i) Actual Users including Government departments and computer manufacturers;

(ii) Software houses registered with the Department of Electronics for the purpose of stock and sale; and

(iii) Department of Electronics for stock and sale.

In view of this, indiscriminate import of software packages is not likely to arise.

(c) The interests of domestic software industry are safeguard by the following measures :

(i) Actual user, both industrial and non-industrial, can utilise the imported software only for their own acutal use.

(ii) There is Department of Electronics control over software houses registered with it. If any misuse is detected, the registration will be wihdrawn.

(iii) Tenders floated by Government for the procurement of software, will particularly emphasise on domestic software where available to the specifications required.

(iv) As the manpower cost for software development in India is a fraction of that of software develpoed in developed countries, the indigenously developed software will have an intrinsic price advantage over import. In addition, a protective custom duty over imported software is also available.

(v) A software Development Agency has been created under the Deparment of Electronics for promoting indigenous development of software and their utilisation within the country and export.

CBI Investigation in malpractices in Syndicate Bank

2579. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that two cases of alleged malpractices in various branche of the Syndicate Bank are under C.B.I. investigation;

(b) if so, whether the C.B.I. has submitted any report on their findings in this regard; and

(c) if so, the findings of the enquiry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) As the Hon'ble Member has not indicated the particulars of the cases, such as the name of the bank branch etc., it is not possible to furnish the details sought.

Investigation into Loans to Reliance Intudtries

2580. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the investigation into the loans given by banks to companies associated with Reliance Industries Limited has established misuse of fund;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the matter has been referred to Central Bureau of Investigation;

(d) wheher C.B.I. has submitted its report; and

(e) if so, what action has been taken against Reliance Industries Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Pursuant to the preliminary findings of the RBI concerning loans granted by Banks in India to the companies reportedly connected with Reliance Industries Ltd., RBI in exercise of powers conferred under section 35 and 35A of the Banking Regulation Act read with section 36 thereof and all other powers vested in the RBI under the said Act, set up a Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan, Deputy Governor, RBI. A copy of the report of the Committee set up by the RBI has been laid on the table of the Rajya Sabha on 10th November, 1986.

(c) The Central Bureau of Investigation has reported that no case is being investigated by it in respect of loans given by Banks to companies associated with RIL.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Contraband goods seized in Kanpur

2581. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 14 crores with contraband goods has been seized in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh in the 1st week of February, 1987; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and how many persons have been arrested?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

CBI Raid on Mr. Gurumurthy

2582. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri Coomer Narayan and Shri Yogesh Maneklal were taken into custody in 1984-85 for their alleged attempts to obtain secret information from Government as provided in the Official Secrets Act; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not taking into custody Shri S. Gurumurthy for stealing secret files of Government as revealed by the CBI raid conducted at his premises in Madras during December, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Shri Gurumurthy was arrested by the C.B.I. on the night of 13th/14th March, 1987.

Violations of Indian airspace by Pakistan and China

2583. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of times when Pakistani aircraft crossed over in the Indian airspace during 1986;

(b) whether any protests were lodged with the Pakistan Government; and

(c) whether there was any air violation from the Chinese side also during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): a There were some cases of violation of Indian airspace by Pakistani aircraft during 1986. It would not be desirable to disclose details in this regard.

(b) Protests were lodged with Pakistan Government on every occasion.